

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 HONG K 14227 080527Z

17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

SAJ-01 TRSE-00 /057 W

----- 037675

R 080440Z DEC 76

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2983

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU

FBIS OKINAWA

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 14227

NOFORN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PINT PINR CH

SUBJECT: "GANG OF FOUR" FOLLOWERS AND THEIR STATUS

REFS: A) HONG KONG 14215 B) HONG KONG 14188

1. IN A DECEMBER 7 CONVERSATION WITH CONGEN OFFICERS (REFTELS), TA KUNG PAO PUBLISHER FEI I-MIN WAS PARTICULARLY CRITICAL OF THE LATE CHAIRMAN MAO'S WIFE AMONG "GANG OF FOUR" MEMBERS AND WAS ALSO OUTSPOKEN IN HIS CRITICISM OF MAO YUAN-HSIN AMONG THE GROUP'S SUPPORTERS. FEI NOTED THAT MAO YUAN-HSIN HAD BEEN BROUGHT UP BY THE LATE CHAIRMAN AS HIS OWN SON AND THAT EVERYONE BELIEVED HIM TO BE TRUSTWORTH. SOMEHOW, THE YOUNGER MAO FELL UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE FOUR AND FOR THE PAST YEAR AND A HALF, MAO YUAN-HSIN HAD BEEN SITTING IN PEKING CONTROLLING A "MAO LIAISON OFFICE" WHICH SCREENED THE CHAIRMAN'S INCOMING MESSAGES. DURING THIS TIME, HE PURPORTEDLY PASSED EVERYTHING TO THE GANG (HONG KONG 13844).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 HONG K 14227 080527Z

2. TEI ALSO SPOKE OF OTHER CENTER FIGURES WHO WERE SPECIFIC-

ALLY IMPLICATED IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE "GANG OF FOUR". HE NOTED THAT THE FOLLOWING OFFICIALS WERE "UNDER DETENTION": MINISTER OF CULTURE YU HUI-YUNG AND CULTURE VICE MINISTERS HAO LIANG AND LIU CHIN-TANG; EDUCATION MINISTRY FIGURES CHIH CHUN AND HSIEH CHING-YI; FORMER FOREIGN MINISTRY CHIEF CHIAO KUAN-HUA, HIS WIFE CHANG HAN-CHIH, AND PROTOCOL CHIEF CHU CHUAN-HSIEN (HONG KONG 14188). FEI ALSO STATED THAT PEKING MILITIA DEPUTY COMMANDER MA HSIAO-LIU AND MUNICIPAL TRADE UNION VICE CHAIRMAN (SIC) CHIN TSU-MIN, ORIGINALLY FROM SHANGHAI (HONG KONG 12972), WERE ALSO UNDER ARREST. RESPONDING TO QUESTION, FEI NOTED THAT SPORTS COMMISSION DIRECTOR GHUANG TSE-TUNG WAS NO LONGER UNDER ARREST SINCE HE HAD MADE A SATISFACTORY SELF-CONFESSION AND DISASSOCIATED HIMSELF FROM THE "GANG". BUT, FEI COMMENTED THAT HIS "REPUTATION IS FINISHED". FEI ALSO RESPONDED AFFIRMATIVELY THAT MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH LIU HSIANG-PING WAS IN TROUBLE BUT HE DID NOT STATE WHETHER SHE WAS ALSO AMONG THOSE DETAINED (PEKING 2432).

3. COMMENTING FAVORABLY ON CHAIRMAN HUA'S IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MAOIST PRINCIPLE OF "CURING THE ILLNESS AND SAVING THE PATIENT", FEI STATED THAT THIS PRINCIPLE WOULD GOVERN THE FERRETING OUT AND PUNISHMENT OF SUPPORTERS OF THE GANG (HONG KONG 13843). TIME DID NOT PERMIT SPECIFIC DISCUSSIONS OF PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS ALREADY UNDERGOING CRITICISM, BUT FEI DID NOTE, AS A CONCRETE EXAMPLE OF THE POLICY OF FORGIVENESS, THAT SHANGHAI PARTY SECRETARY MA TIEN-SHUI HAD BEEN ALLOWED TO RESUME WORK AND THAT THE ONLY OFFICIALS UNDER ARREST IN SHANGHAI WERE WANG HSIU-CHEN AND HSU CHING-HSIEN. FEI WAS UNCLEAR ABOUT HOW HE DEFINED THE TERM "OFFICIALS", BUT WE SUSPECT THAT IT WAS LIMITED TO PARTY SECRETARY LEVEL AND THAT OTHER LESSER OFFICIALS IN PARTY, STATE AND MASS ORGANIZATION GROUPS ARE ALSO BEING DETAINED THERE. CROSS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976HONGK14227
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760453-0186
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761263/aaaacceo.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 HONG KONG 14215, 76 HONG KONG 14188
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <16 SEP 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: "GANG OF FOUR" FOLLOWERS AND THEIR STATUS
TAGS: PINT, CH, (MAO YUAN-HSIN), (FEI I-MIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006